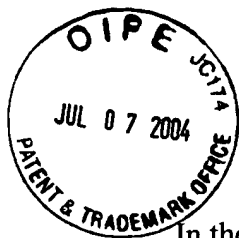


JRW



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In the application of:

Masahiro SHIINA

Serial No.: 10/606,126

Filing Date: June 25, 2003

For: SEMICONDUCTOR DEVICE

Examiner: Cuong Q. Nguyen

Group Art Unit: 2811

RESPONSE TO ELECTION REQUIREMENT

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In response to the Action mailed June 24, 2004, applicant elects to prosecute embodiment 1, Figs. 1-4 and Fig. 14A without traverse. Applicant believes that claims 1-6 read on the elected species. Applicant respectfully submits, however, that the embodiments identified by the Examiner are closely related enough that they should be examined together in a single application without undue search burden and that the non-elected species should be rejoined and examined with the elected species upon the indication of allowable subject matter in this application.

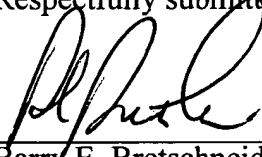
Early action allowing claims 1-6 in this application is solicited.

In the event that the transmittal letter is separated from this document and the Patent and Trademark Office determines that an extension and/or other relief is required, applicant petitions for any required relief including extensions of time and authorizes the Commissioner to charge the cost of such petitions and/or other fees due in connection with the filing of this document to **Deposit Account No. 03-1952** referencing Docket No. 492322013200.

Respectfully submitted,

Dated: July 7, 2004

By:


Barry E. Bretschneider
Registration No. 28,055

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